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Cc: Kring, Debbie[kring.debbie@epa.gov]
From: Whitley, Christopher
Sent: Thur 1/24/2013 4:02:23 PM
Subject: Re: Westlake question from Rep Bill Otto

EPA Region 7 signed a Record of Decision (ROD) for the West Lake Landfill Site in May 2008, which outlined a selected remedy of constructing a protective cap for the landfill, and conducting ongoing monitoring of groundwater to ensure that the remedy would remain protective.

Because of an unusually high volume of comments from citizens, community leaders and elected officials concerning the ROD's selected remedy, EPA Region 7 asked the potentially responsible parties to conduct a Supplemental Feasibility Study (SFS) for the portion of the landfill that is known to contain a mixture of radiologically-contaminated soils, municipal refuse and construction/demolition debris. The purpose of the SFS was to further evaluate the selected remedy set forth in the ROD (capping and monitoring), as well as alternatives that would involve full-scale excavation of the radiologically-contaminated material, with disposal of that material to occur either at a permitted off-site facility, or in a new specially engineered structure at the landfill.

The SFS was finalized in December 2011. Because estimated costs for each alternative remedy exceeded \$25 million, EPA Region 7 was required to consult with EPA's National Remedy Review Board (NRRB), a headquarters-level panel of experts tasked with examining major Superfund cleanup strategies across the country. The NRRB studied the SFS for West Lake, and provided a series of suggestions to EPA Region 7, including recommendations for additional groundwater sampling at the landfill, further study of the partial excavation alternative, and further analysis of potential treatment technologies for the radiologically-contaminated landfill material. In June 2012, EPA Region 7 tasked the potentially responsible parties to conduct this additional work.

The potentially responsible parties performed additional groundwater sampling in July and August 2012, and EPA Region 7 staff performed some additional radiation screening at the site in November 2012. Results of the sampling and screening were analyzed, and then were presented to the public at the meeting in Bridgeton on January 17, 2013.

Additional rounds of groundwater sampling (to determine possible seasonal changes and look for any other potential issues) and radiation screening will occur over the coming months, and those results--along with a formal presentation summarizing additional investigative/exploratory work being performed by EPA Region 7 and the potentially responsible parties--will be presented at public meetings to be hosted by EPA Region 7 at dates that have not yet been determined.

For now, and pending the outcome of this additional investigation and evaluation, EPA Region 7 has not committed to proceeding with any particular remedy for this site.

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From: Sarah Hatch/R7/USEPA/US

To: Debbie Kring/R7/USEPA/US@EPA, Christopher Whitley/R7/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/24/2013 09:04 AM
Subject: Westlake question from Rep Bill Otto

Can one of you please email me a summary response that I can provide to him? Thanks - Sarah

The EPA held hearings last week on the handling of the radioactive material on the site and I am curious what happens from there. I was under the impression that this had been decided in 2008 but apparently the course of action has yet to be determined. What happens next & how does word get to the public?

Sarah Hatch
Congressional and State Government Liaison

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